

IVIG Infusion Key Points

IVIG Medication

- IG therapy is used to treat immunology, hematology, neurology, dermatology, oncology, transplant, and obstetric diseases in the adult and pediatric fields
- The purpose of IG therapy is to assist the body in tandem with the body's cells, organs, and proteins to fight against antigens by providing passive immunity
- The half life of IG is 21-40 days but can be reduced by fever, infection, or stress (increased metabolism)
- IG therapy helps the body's existing antibodies and are systemic when plasma cells (T cells stimulate B cells to divide forming plasma cells) are not capable to produce those antibodies
- Even though it's a blood product – no reports of transmitted blood borne disease
- All IG therapy products contain IgG, IgA, IgM

The Key to Successful IVIG therapy infusion

1. Know what type of infusion you're doing and be confident in ability to gain and maintain secure access for prescribed type of infusion (SubQ or IV).
2. Read prescribed infusion dose and rate. If patient not tolerating then reduce by 50% and call VAP supervisor for further instructions. If patient is having adverse reaction, STOP infusion. Call VAP supervisor for further instructions. All in home patients have anaphylaxis kit.
 - Mild / Moderate adverse reactions include: Headache (most common due to hydration status), fever, chills, muscle pain, low back pain, rash, vomiting, increased BP
 - Anaphylaxis: Low BP, Hives, Shortness of Breath, throat swelling, weak pulse
3. Follow patient's Plan of Treatment (POT) for pre medications (oral or IV). Document times of pre and post medications with start and stop times
4. During infusion, interval of rate increases will be done according to prescribing MD and contracted facility protocol. ALWAYS CHART PATIENT STATUS AT EACH VITAL INTERVAL
5. After infusion complete follow contracted facilities protocol for flush VAD or CVAD. Follow VAP charting policy for infusion clinic/visit notes and ordering supplies.

If there is a change in the patient's status or symptoms are noted that may be a reaction to the drug call the VAP supervisor immediately. If it is unsafe for the patient you will call 911.